Claims

Having described the invention, we claim:

1. A wheelchair including:

a seat back;

a frame rail;

a seat back fold-down mechanism supporting said seat back for folding movement relative to said frame rail between a folded position and an unfolded and locked position, said seat back fold-down mechanism including a first releasable locking mechanism for releasably locking said seat back in the unfolded and locked position; and

a seat back angle adjustment mechanism for adjusting the angle of said seat back relative to said frame rail when said seat back is in the unfolded and locked position, said seat back angle adjustment mechanism including a second releasable locking mechanism for releasably locking said seat back at any selected one of a plurality of different angles relative to said frame rail;

said seat back fold-down mechanism enabling folding movement of said seat back between the folded position and the unfolded and locked position without releasing said second releasable locking mechanism when said seat back is locked in any selected one of the plurality of different angles relative to said frame rail;

said seat back having a portion that slides along said frame rail as the seat back angle is adjusted.

2. A wheelchair as set forth in claim 1 wherein the length of said seat back varies as the seat back angle is adjusted.

3. A wheelchair as set forth in claim 2 wherein said seat back is pivotally connected with said frame rail by a pivot bracket, said seat back being fixedly connected to said pivot bracket, said pivot bracket pivoting relative to said frame rail when said seat back is moved from the unfolded position to the folded position.

4. A wheelchair as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first releasable locking mechanism includes a first plunger pin assembly having a plunger pin engageable in a track on said frame rail, and said second releasable locking mechanism includes a second plunger pin assembly having a plunger pin that is selectively engageable in any one of a plurality of spaced apertures on said seat back.

5. A wheelchair including:

a seat back;

a frame rail;

a seat back fold-down mechanism supporting said seat back for folding movement relative to said frame rail between a folded position and an unfolded and locked position, said seat back fold-down mechanism including a first releasable locking mechanism for releasably locking said seat back in the unfolded and locked position; and

a seat back angle adjustment mechanism for adjusting the angle of said seat back relative to said frame rail when said seat back is in the unfolded and locked position, said seat back angle adjustment mechanism including a second releasable locking mechanism for releasably locking said seat back at any selected one of a plurality of different angles relative to said frame rail;

said seat back fold-down mechanism enabling folding movement of said seat back between the folded position and the unfolded and locked position without releasing said second

releasable locking mechanism when said seat back is locked in any selected one of the plurality of different angles relative to said frame rail;

said seat back having a length that varies as the seat back angle is adjusted.

6. A wheelchair including:

a seat back;

a frame rail;

a seat back fold-down mechanism supporting said seat back for folding movement relative to said frame rail between a folded position and an unfolded and locked position, said seat back fold-down mechanism including a first releasable locking mechanism for releasably locking said seat back in the unfolded and locked position; and

a seat back angle adjustment mechanism for adjusting the angle of said seat back relative to said frame rail when said seat back is in the unfolded and locked position, said seat back angle adjustment mechanism including a second releasable locking mechanism for releasably locking said seat back at any selected one of a plurality of different angles relative to said frame rail;

said seat back fold-down mechanism enabling folding movement of said seat back between the folded position and the unfolded and locked position without releasing said second releasable locking mechanism when said seat back is locked in any selected one of the plurality of different angles relative to said frame rail;

said seat back including a back cane that is pivotally connected with said frame rail by a pivot bracket, said back cane being fixedly connected to said pivot bracket, said pivot bracket pivoting relative to said frame rail when said seat back is moved from the unfolded position to the folded position.